

### REMARKS

Applicants hereby offer preliminary amendments to the present application to place the application in better form for allowance.

Applicants have canceled Claims 1-17 in favor of replacement Claims 18-50 to correct certain informalities (including avoidance of multiple dependencies, avoidance of use claims, and removal of preferences or addition of new claims directed to such preferences) and to clarify the intended meaning of the claims without materially altering their scope. Applicants respectfully submit that the claims are fully supported in the specification.

Applicants have amended the specification to change the title to capitalize all letters in the title and to insert a statement of priority. Applicants submit that these amendments serve only to clarify their application and do not alter the scope of their disclosure.

Applicants have amended the Abstract to change the title for the reasons discussed above and to change the heading and body to a more customary form. A copy of the new Abstract is separately attached.

In view of the preceding amendments and remarks, allowance of the claims is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

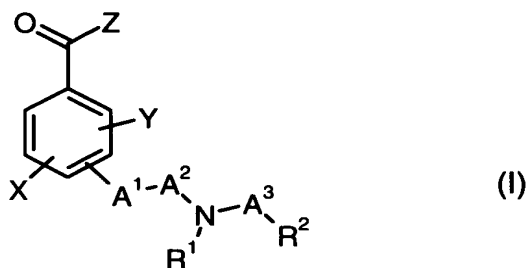
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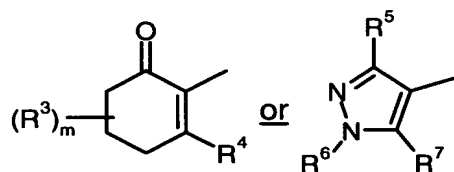
SUBSTITUTED ARYL KETONES  
ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

The invention relates to novel aryl ketones of the formula (I)



in which

Z represents the groups



and

A¹, A², A³, R¹, R², R³, R⁴, R⁵, R⁶, R⁷, X, Y, and m are as defined in the disclosure,

to their use as pesticides, in particular herbicides, and to processes and intermediates for their preparation.